



Forest  
Service

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Regional Office

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Route To:

Date: April 10, 2008

Subject: Hazard Tree Occurences, Jemez Ranger District

To: Linda Riddle, District Ranger, Jemez Ranger District

On Wednesday April 2, 2008 I met with Phyllis Martinez of your staff. The purpose of this meeting was to identify alternative recreation sites to use during our hazard tree workshop scheduled for Tuesday May 6, 2008. I am coordinating this workshop with Joan Hellen, Landscape Architect, Santa Fe, National Forest, SO. We looked at six sites in the Jemez Corridor, Redondo Campground, El Cajete Canyon Trailhead, and Las Conchas Picnic Area.

Of the nine sites visited, trees with structural defects capable of causing personal injury and/or property damage were found at four of the nine sites visited. Three of these sites were located in riparian areas south of the Vista Linda Picnic Area. The other site was Redondo Campground. The structural defects in the riparian sites consisted dead branches, limbs, and stems on several of the cottonwood at these sites. Dead branches and limbs were hanging over structures, parking pads, and trails leading to the hiking and fishing sites along the Jemez River. Although we do not normally rate hardwoods for hazards until they are fully leafed out, these dead branches, limbs, and stems were too obvious to ignore since these sites are open year round and their failures could occur at any time. I strongly recommend these hazards be removed as soon as possible. Phyllis assures me this could be done in a timely manner. I would still be able to use these sites as examples of what has been done to mitigate potential hazards in recreation areas should we decide to have the hazard tree training session on your District. We also found a large, bark beetle-killed ponderosa pine at a campsite in Redondo Campground. This tree should be removed before the campground is opened later this spring.

Phyllis and I are planning to re-evaluate the riparian sites once the trees have leafed out, of particular concern is the tree shown below. This tree has extensive branch and limb dieback, and extensive stem and branch decay and may have to be removed for safety reasons.





If you have any questions concerning this evaluation, please give me a call at (505).842-3287 or <mailto:trogers@fs.fed.us>.

*/s/ Terrence J. Rogers*  
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Zone

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